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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

CINCPAC

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, US

SUBJ: MEETING WITH BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER

SUMMARY. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER ABU SAYEED CHOWDHURY LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON OCTOBER 27, ACCOMPANIED BY AMB AND DCM. FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS FOCUSED HEAVILY ON SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S REPORTED EXPRESSIONS OF USG SUPPORT FOR BD, PROSPECTS OF DEEPENING FRIENDSHIP, BDG'S EXPANDING FOREIGN RELATIONS PARTICULARLY WITH PAKISTAN AND PRC, AND REMINISCENCES OF AMERICAN HOSPITALITY IN 1971. DUBS REITERATED US FRIENDSHIP, CONGRATULATED FOREIGN MINISTER ON REALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND CHINA, ALERTED FOREIGN MINISTER TO POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES IN EXCEEDING PRESENT PL-480 COMMITMENTS BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS, AND NOTED USG'S STRONG INTEREST IN KOREAN ISSUE AT CURRENT SESSION OF UNGA. END SUMMARY.

1. AFTER INITIAL PLEASANTRIES, CHOWDHURY OPENED WITH A CONFIDENTIAL

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WARM DESCRIPTION OF HIS FRIENDLY DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK

WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN WHICH THE SECRETARY HAD ASSURED HIM OF FULL USG SUPPORT. CHOWDHURY SAID HE CONVEYED TO THE SECRETARY THE SCHEDULE OF ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND PRC, AND THAT THE SECRETARY REPLIED HE WAS HAPPY TO HEAR THIS NEWS. MOREOVER, ACCORDING TO CHOWDHURY, THE SECRETARY TOLD THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER IN HIS PRESENCE THAT THE USG WAS A GREAT SUPPORTER OF BD AND THAT HE WAS PLEASED ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES.

- 2. DUBS CONFIRMED THE SECRETARY'S INTEREST IN BD'S PROBLEMS BUT SAID HE WAS OBLIGED TO MENTION THAT THERE WAS GREAT DEMAND FOR PL-480 WHEAT, THAT RISING PRICES MEANT SMALLER QUANTITIES, THEREBY CONFRONTING WASHINGTON WITH THE PROBLEM OF REALLOCATIONS. HE WAS QUITE SURE OF THE 850,000 TONS OF TITLE I AND 50,000 TONS OF TITLE II PROMISED TO BANGLADESH, BUT WE WOULD NEED TO LOOK CAREFULLY BEYOND THOSE AMOUNTS.
- 3. CHOWDHURY SAID THIS WAS ENCOURAGING; HE HOPED THE CONGRESS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE AS SYMPATHETIC AS WAS SECRETARY KISSINGER. DUBS NOTED CONGRESSIONAL HUMANITARIAN INTEREST, AND CHOWDHURY AGREED THAT CONGRESS HAD ALWAYS BEEN SYMPATHETIC TO BD.
- 4. DUBS CONGRATULATED CHOWDHURY ON THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESS IN ATTAINING THE FOREIGN POLICY GOALS WHICH HAD ELUDED THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, NAMELY DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND CHINA. IN RESPONSE TO DUB'S QUESTION REGARDING THE ARRIVAL OF PAKISTAN AND CHINESE AMBASSADORS IN DACCA, CHOWDHURY QUOTED AZIZ AHMED THAT THE PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR SHOULD COME SOON. BDG ALREADY HAS AGREMENT ON THEIR NOMINEE, BUT GOP'S NOMINATION HAS BEEN DELAYED BY BHUTTO'S ABSENCE FROM THE COUNTRY. DUBS SAID HE RECEIVED THE CLEAREST IMPRESSION WHILE IN ISLAMABAD RECENTLY THAT GOP ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS NEW RELATIONSHIP. CHOWDHURY SAID THEY ALSO EXPECT TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS SOON WITH CHINA BUT HE DID ELABORATE ON THIS POINT.
- 5. DUBS NOTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CURRENT CONCEPTUAL THINKING NOT ONLY ADDRESSED NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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THE USSR AND CHINA AND STABILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT WAS FOCUSSING ALSO ON SUCH GLOBAL ISSUES AS FOOD, ENERGY, RAW MATERIALS, POPULATION CONTROL. IN THIS CONTEXT HE CITED THE SPEECH AT THE RECENT SPECAIL SESSION OF UNGA, AND CHOWDHURY REPLIED THAT THIS WAS ANOTHER EXCELLENT ILLUSTRATION OF THE SECRETARY'S CREATIVE THINKING.

6. DUBS REFERRED TO THE AMBASSAODR'S RECENT CONVERSATION

WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY ON THE KOREAN ISSUE CURRENTLY BEFORE THE UNGA AND REITERATED THE MAJOR IMPORTANCE THE USG ATTACHED TO THIS QUESTION. CHOWDHURY QUIPPED THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO REOPEN DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN COVERED.

7. IN CLOSING CHOWDHURY ASKED DUBS TO CONVEY WARM PERSONAL REGARDS TO THE SECRETARY AND HOPED AMBASSADOR BOSTER WOULD RETURN FROM HIS FORTHCOMING HOME LEAVE WITH QTE MORE AID END QTE.
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Subject: MEETING WITH BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER SUMMARY. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS CALLED ON FOREIGN

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, US, PK, CH, (CHOWDHURY, ABU SAYEED), (DUBS)

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